

CLAIMS:

1. A pallet comprising:

a load-bearing deck;

bearer members for supporting said deck, and

an accessible component located beneath the load-bearing deck and accessible from a side of the pallet, said component comprising a load-infestation monitoring device.
2. A pallet according to claim 1 wherein the load-infestation monitoring device is configured to provide a visible indication of infestation.
3. A pallet according to claim 1 wherein the load-infestation monitoring device comprises a lure for attracting a pest of a type known to cause infestation.
4. A pallet according to claim 1 wherein the accessible component comprises one of the bearer members which is provided with a recess or compartment that is accessible from an exposed end-face or side of the bearer member.
5. A pallet according to claim 4 wherein the recess is provided with a cover to provide a chamber within which the load-infestation monitoring device is located.
6. A pallet according to claim 4 wherein the load-infestation monitoring device is configured to push fit into the recess and to be retained in said recess by an interference-fit.
7. A pallet according to claim 1 wherein a pressure-sensitive or peelable adhesive is used for assisting retention of the load-infestation monitoring device in place.
8. A pallet according to claim 1 wherein a releasable mechanical fixing is used for assisting retention of the load-infestation monitoring device in place.
9. A pallet according to claim 1 further comprising a load-condition monitoring device.
10. A pallet according to claim 1 wherein the monitoring device itself is adapted to release a replaceable part or disposable detection medium.

11. A pallet comprising:
 - a load-bearing deck;
 - bearer members for supporting said deck; and
 - an integral load-infestation monitoring device located beneath the load-bearing deck and accessible from a side of the pallet.
12. A method of monitoring the quality of goods susceptible to infestation, the method comprising:
 - providing a pallet comprising at least a load-bearing deck and bearer members for supporting the deck;
 - locating a load-infestation monitoring device beneath the load-bearing deck and accessible from a side of the pallet for inspection purposes;
 - loading the goods on the pallet, and periodically inspecting the load-infestation monitoring device for evidence of infestation.
13. A pallet according to claim 2, in which the load-infestation monitoring device comprises a lure for attracting a pest of a type known to cause infestation.
14. A pallet according to claim 2 wherein the accessible component comprises one of the bearer members which is provided with a recess or compartment that is accessible from an exposed end-face or side of the bearer member.
15. A pallet according to claim 3 wherein the accessible component comprises one of the bearer members which is provided with a recess or compartment that is accessible from an exposed end-face or side of the bearer member.
16. A pallet according to claim 5 wherein the load-infestation monitoring device is configured to push fit into the recess and to be retained in said recess by an interference-fit.
17. A pallet according to claim 2 further comprising a load-condition monitoring device.

18. A pallet according to claim 3 further comprising a load-condition monitoring device.
19. A pallet according to claim 4 further comprising a load-condition monitoring device.
20. A pallet according to claim 5 further comprising a load-condition monitoring device.